

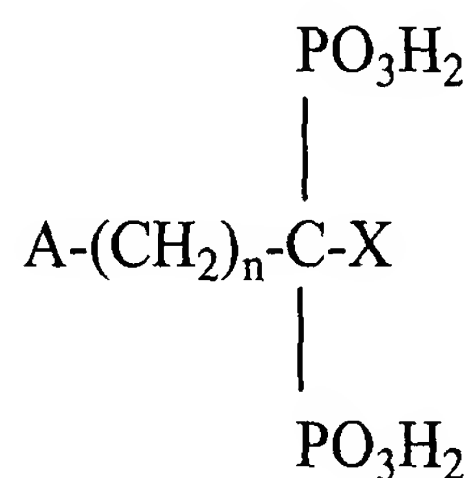
IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-34, and add new claims 35-48

1-34. Canceled

35. (New) A method of treating or preventing the development of skeletal exostosis of the third metacarpus or metatarsus in horses comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a bisphosphonate or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or ester thereof or mixtures thereof.

36. (New) The method of Claim 35 wherein said bisphosphonate corresponds to the chemical structure



wherein n is an integer from 0 to 7 and wherein A and X are independently selected from the group consisting of H, OH, halogen, NH₂, SH, phenyl, C1-C30 alkyl, C3-C30 branched or cycloalkyl, C1-C30 substituted alkyl, C1-C10 alkyl substituted NH₂, C3-C10 branched or cycloalkyl substituted NH₂, C1-C10 dialkyl substituted NH₂, C1-C10 alkoxy, C1-C10 alkyl substituted thio, thiophenyl, halophenylthio, C1-C10 alkyl substituted phenyl, pyridyl, furanyl, pyrrolidinyl, imidazolyl, imidazopyridinyl, and benzyl, such that both A and X are not selected from H or OH when n is 0; or A and X are taken together with the carbon atom or atoms to which they are attached to form a C3-C10 ring; and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof and esters thereof.

37. (New) The method of Claim 35 wherein said bisphosphonate is selected from the group consisting of alendronate, cimadronate, clodronate, tiludronate, etidronate, ibandronate, neridronate, olpadronate, risedronate, piridronate, pamidronate, zoledronate, pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, esters thereof, and mixtures thereof.

38. (New) The method of Claim 37 wherein said bisphosphonate is alendronate, pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, esters thereof, and mixtures thereof.

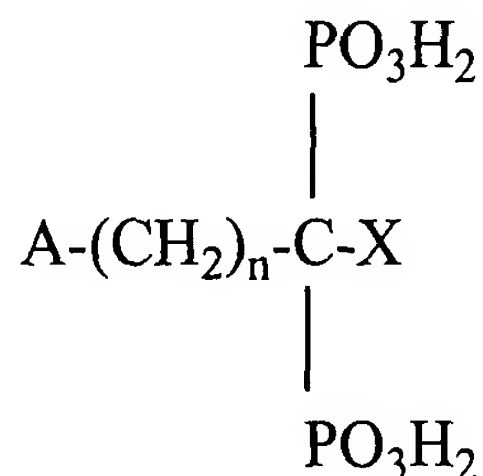
39. (New) The method of Claim 38 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable salt is selected from the group consisting of sodium, potassium calcium, magnesium, and ammonium salts.

40. (New) The method of Claim 39 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable salt is a sodium salt.

41. (New) The method of Claim 40 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable salt is alendronate monosodium trihydrate.

42. (New) A method of alleviating pain associated with the development of skeletal exostosis of the third metacarpus or metatarsus in horses comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a bisphosphonate or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or ester thereof or mixture thereof.

43. (New) The method of Claim 42 wherein said bisphosphonate corresponds to the chemical structure



wherein n is an integer from 0 to 7 and wherein A and X are independently selected from the group consisting of H, OH, halogen, NH₂, SH, phenyl, C1-C30 alkyl, C3-C30 branched or cycloalkyl, C1-C30 substituted alkyl, C1-C10 alkyl substituted NH₂, C3-C10 branched or cycloalkyl substituted NH₂, C1-C10 dialkyl substituted NH₂, C1-C10 alkoxy, C1-C10 alkyl substituted thio, thiophenyl, halophenylthio, C1-C10 alkyl substituted phenyl, pyridyl, furanyl, pyrrolidinyl, imidazolyl, imidazopyridinyl, and benzyl, such that both A and X are not selected from H or OH when n is 0; or A and X are taken together with the carbon atom or atoms to which they are attached to form a C3-C10 ring; and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof or esters thereof.

44. (New) The method of Claim 42 wherein said bisphosphonate is selected from the group consisting of alendronate, cimadronate, clodronate, tiludronate, etidronate, ibandronate, neridronate, olpadronate, risedronate, piridronate, pamidronate, zoledronate, pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, esters thereof, and mixtures thereof.

45. (New) The method of Claim 44 wherein said bisphosphonate is alendronate, pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, esters thereof, and mixtures thereof.

46. (New) The method of Claim 45 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable salt is selected from the group consisting of sodium, potassium calcium, magnesium, and ammonium salts.

47. (New) The method of Claim 46 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable salt is a sodium salt.

48. (New) The method of Claim 47 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable salt is alendronate monosodium trihydrate.